

Play it safe this Halloween: If you feel different, you drive different

Media Contact:Veronica Marshall
Public Information Officer,
Traffic Safety Outreach Coordinator
Veronica.Marshall@Delaware.Gov

Plan to Arrive Alive this Halloween

OHS increases DUI patrols October 29 – 31, 2021

[DOVER, Del.] October 27, 2021 – Spooky season is here. And while some people of all ages celebrate a good scare – the Halloween holiday can present a real danger.

In Delaware:



- In 2020, there were 16 DUI-related crashes and 3 people were injured over the Halloween weekend.
- In 2019, there were 14 DUI-related crashes over the Halloween holiday weekend, resulting in 2 injuries.
- In 2018, there were 13 DUI-related crashes and 5

injuries.

- [31%](#) of all deadly crashes involve alcohol.

Nationally:

- In 2019, 21 vehicle occupants and four pedestrians were killed in drunk driving crashes on Halloween night.
 - Adults between the ages of 21 and 34 had the highest percentage (62%) of fatalities in drunk-driving crashes on Halloween night in 2019.
 - From 2015 to 2019, 126 people were killed in drunk driving crashes on Halloween night.
 - According to the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#) (NHTSA), from 2015 to 2019, 41% of all people killed in motor vehicle crashes on Halloween night were in crashes involving a drunk driver.
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What we're doing

The Office of Highway Safety encourages everyone to start the party right – with a plan.

*“We want our community to have a fun night out on Halloween, but to also stay safe and make responsible choices. You should never put yourself, or others, at risk because you made the choice to drink and drive. Plan your safe ride home before you start the party,” says **Kimberly Chesser, Director, Delaware Office of Highway Safety**. “Drivers should also keep an eye out for pedestrians – whether they be children trick-or-treating or adults who have had too much to drink. Walking while intoxicated can also be deadly.”*

To help people stay safe this Halloween weekend, the Delaware Office of Highway Safety (OHS) is also teaming up with nearly 30 law enforcement agencies statewide to help remind drivers of the dangers of drunk driving. The extra DUI enforcement begins Friday, October 29th and runs through Sunday, October

31st.

Celebrate with a plan

It is never okay to drink and drive – so if you plan to drink, plan ahead for a sober driver to take you home. Even if you've had only [one alcoholic beverage](#), designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a [ride service](#) to get home safely.

If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, make sure all guests leave with a sober driver. And if it's your turn to be the designated driver – take that role seriously and do not consume alcohol.

If you see an impaired driver on the road – contact local law enforcement. Your actions could help save someone's life.

About the Delaware Office of Highway Safety

The Office of Highway Safety (OHS) is committed to improving the safety of Delaware's motoring public by focusing on behavioral traffic safety issues, such as impaired driving, seat belt use, speeding, child passenger safety, pedestrian and bicycle safety, motorcycle safety, and teen driving issues. Follow OHS on [ArriveAliveDE.com](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Snapchat](#).